

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott
Joel Jacobs
Marshall Johnson
Edward Garvey
LeRoy Koppendraye

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Paul Bunyan Rural
Telephone Cooperative's** Request for
Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated
with the **Lake County** 911 Emergency
Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: February 22, 2001

DOCKET NO. **P-423/ES-01-172**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911
SYSTEM COSTS

BACKGROUND

On May 21, 1981, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Lake County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

On March 20, 1985, the Commission approved the actual costs GTE Telephone Company (formerly known as Continental and Contel) incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Lake County.

On October 22, 1987, the Commission approved the actual costs U S West Communications (formerly known as Northwestern Bell) incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Service System in Lake County.

On December 30, 1998, the Commission approved the actual costs IES, LLC incurred for placing 911 features in the Exchanges for ANI service in Lake County.

On March 23, 1999, the Commission approved the actual cost MIIC incurred for the provision of two interexchange data circuits from Plymouth to Duluth to support ANI service.

On October 22, 1999, the Commission approved the actual costs Hutchinson Telephone Company incurred for installing interexchange circuits for their portion of ANI service.

On August 8, 2000, the Commission approved the actual costs Independent Emergency Services, LLC incurred for installing 911 features to support ALI service the Lake County 911 Emergency Services system.

CURRENT FILING

Lake County has contracted with Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative (the Cooperative) to provide Router services for all Exchanges located in Lake County,

On April 30, 1998, the Cooperative installed three each interexchange circuits from the Turtle River Router on to the Deer River Router on to the Two Harbors Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). The Cooperative also installed two circuits from the Turtle River Router to the Deer River Router on to the Two Harbors Exchange, two circuits from the Turtle River Router to the Deer River Router on to the Isabella Exchange, two circuits from the Turtle River Router to the Deer River Router to the Silver Bay Exchange, and two circuits from the Turtle River Router to the Deer River Router to the Finland Exchange to provide Enhanced 911 services with ANI to the Lake County 911 Emergency Services system.

On January 22, 2001, the Cooperative certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision interexchange circuits to provide ANI service.

The Cooperative is now requesting Commission approval of the actual ANI system costs. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Lake County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Lake County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

ORDER

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio tape) by calling (612)297-4596 (voice), (612)297-1200, or 1-800-627-3529 (TTY relay service).

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I _____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the ____ day of _____, 2001 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Lake County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P-423/ES-01-172 .**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

JAMES R BEUTELSPACHER
STATE 9-1-1 PROJECT MANAGER
BUSINESS TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
500 CENTENNIAL OFFICE BUILDING
658 CEDAR STREET
ST PAUL MN 55155

JOY HELLER
PAUL BUNYAN RURAL TELEPHONE
COOPERATIVE
SUITE 100
1831 ANNE ST., NW
BEMIDJI, MN 56601

MARY KAY FRISCH
PRODUCT ANALYST
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
ROOM 510
658 CEDAR STREET
ST. PAUL, MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me, _____

a notary public, this _____ day of

_____, 2001.

Notary Public